

H.126 and Vermont Conservation Design

House Committee on Environment and Energy

February 16, 2023

Eric Sorenson, ecologist

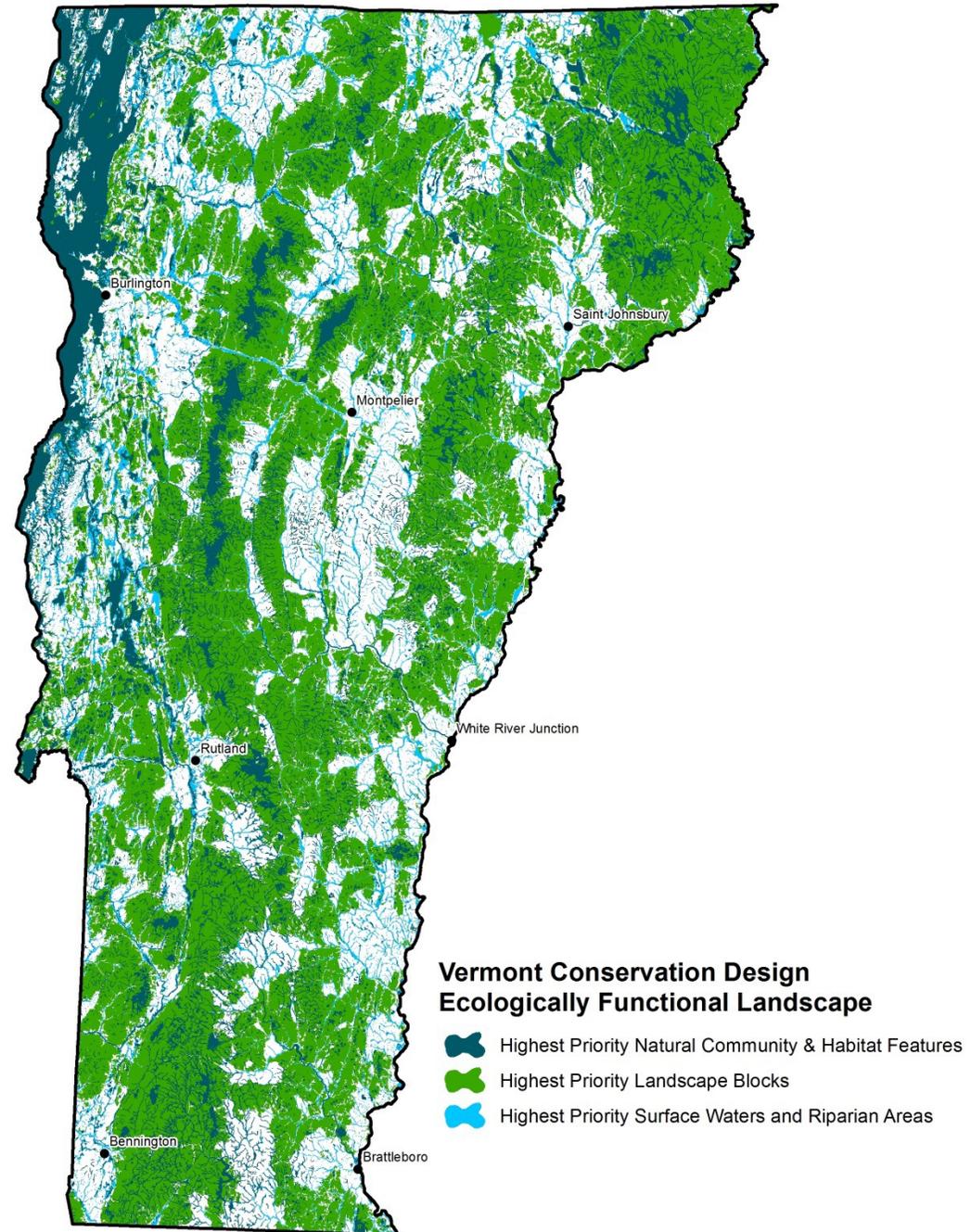


Vermont Conservation Design

Maintains an intact, connected and diverse natural landscape

Conserves species and natural communities

Allows nature to adapt to a changing climate



Conservation Design at Three Scales

Landscapes



Interior Forest Blocks
Connectivity Blocks
Surface Waters and Riparian Areas
Riparian Areas for Connectivity
Physical Landscapes
Wildlife Road Crossings

Natural Communities



Natural Communities
Young and Old Forests
Aquatic Habitats
Wetlands
Grasslands/Shrublands
Underground Habitats

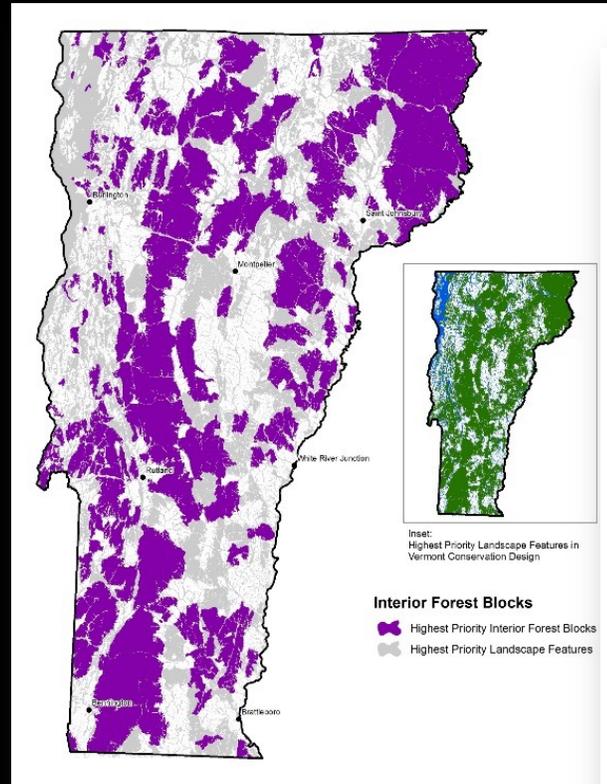
Species



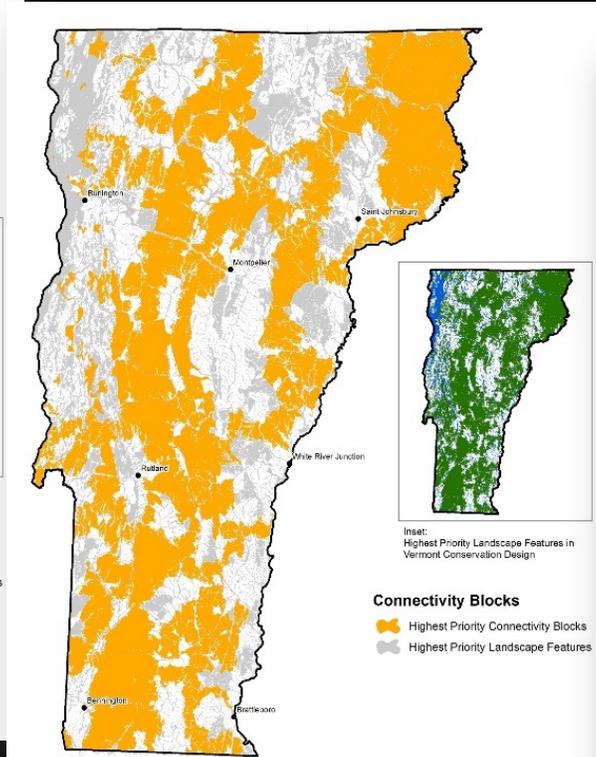
Species with very specific biological needs that will likely always require individual attention

Intact and Connected Forest Blocks, Surface Waters, and Riparian Areas

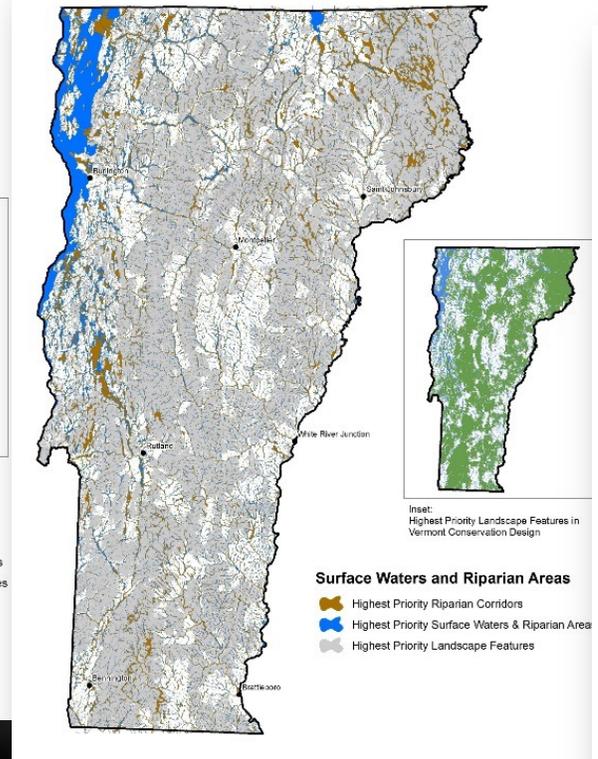
Interior Forest Blocks



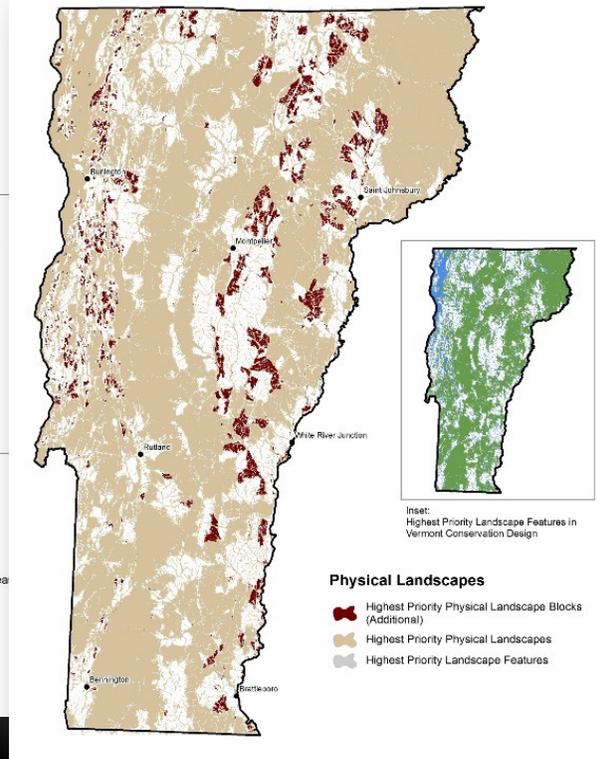
Connectivity Blocks



Surface Waters and Riparian Areas



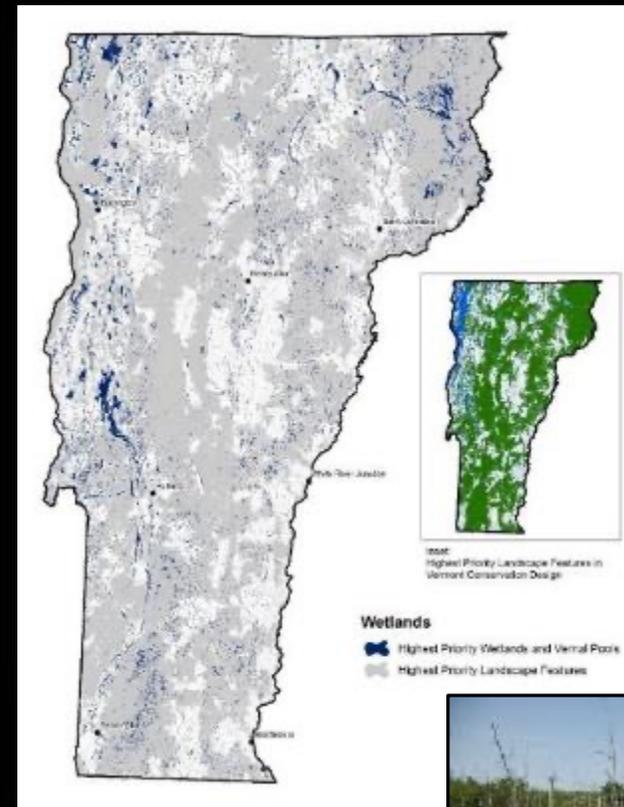
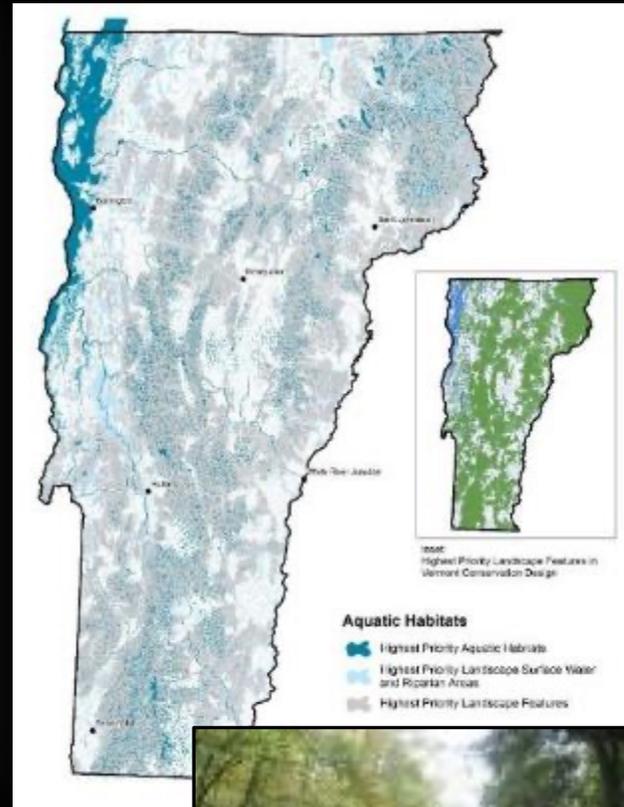
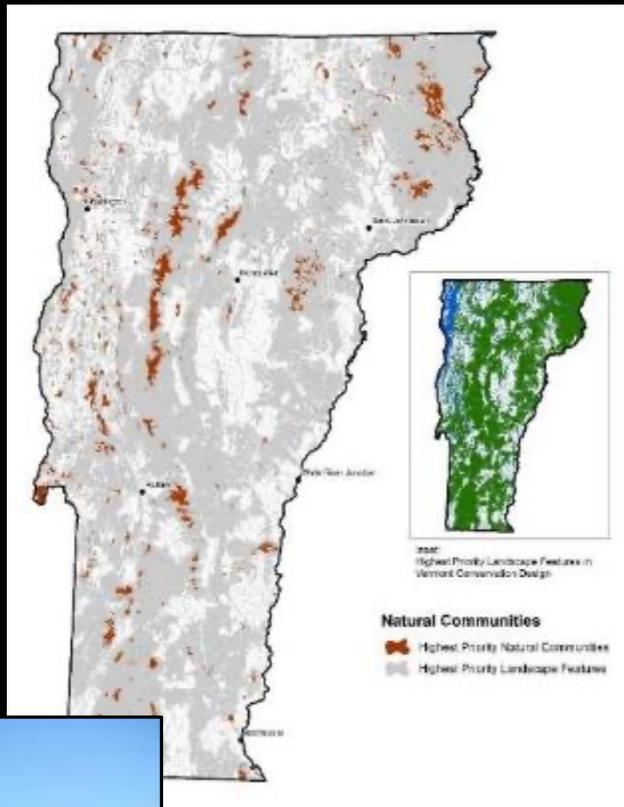
Physical Landscape Diversity



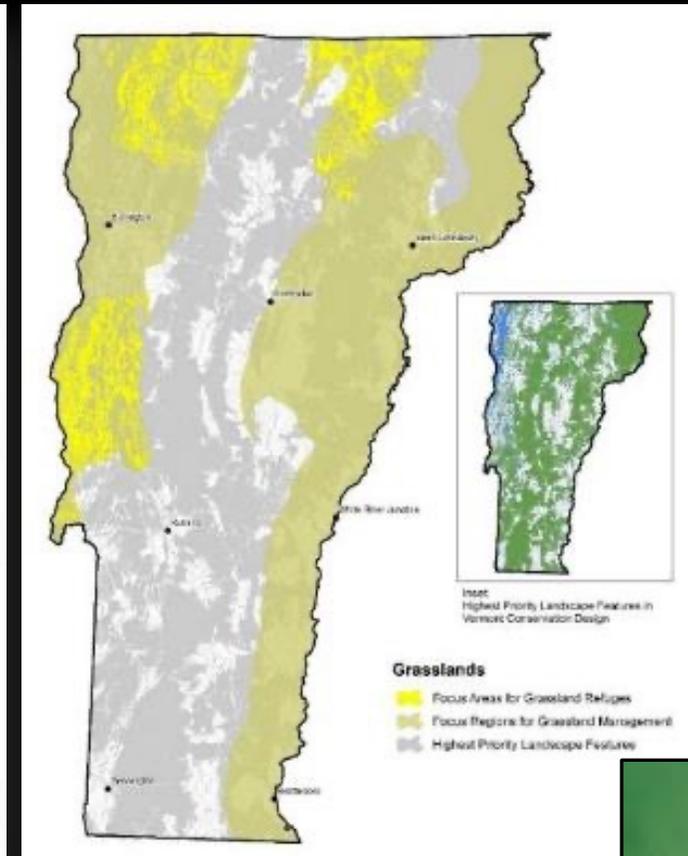
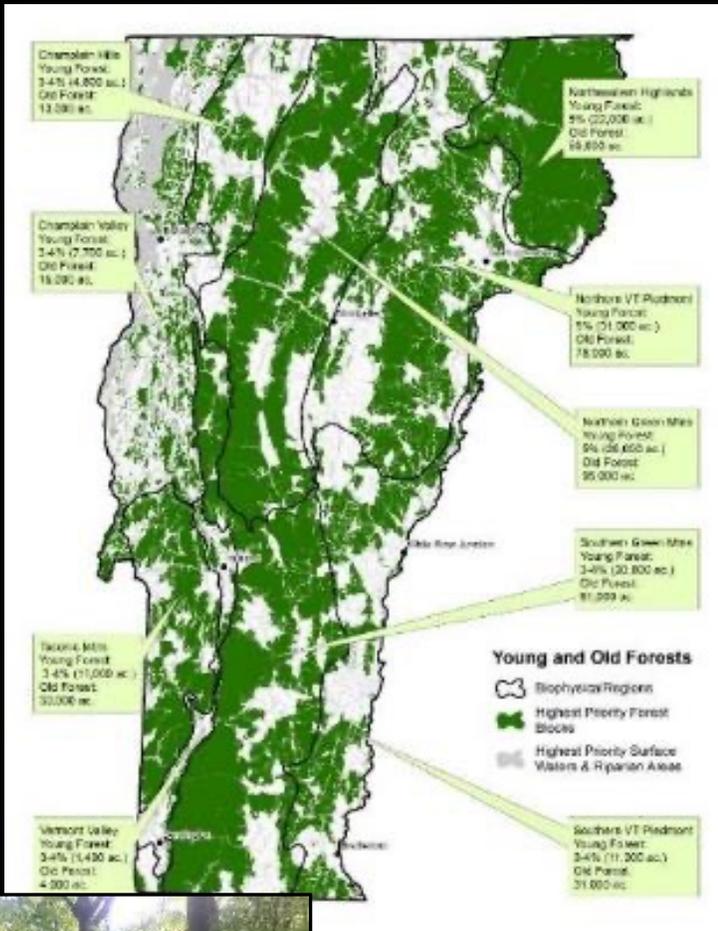
Wildlife Road Crossings

Maintain the specific functions of each element

Terrestrial Natural Communities, Aquatic Habitats, Wetlands, & Caves



Young and Old Forests, Shrublands, Grasslands



VERY DRAFT Coarse Concept of Vermont Conservation Design Elements and Types of Conservation to Maintain Ecological Function

	Ecological Reserve	Biodiversity Conservation Area	Natural Resources Management Areas	NGO Conservation Easements	Use Value Appraisal	Rules and Regulations	Private Land Stewardship
Interior Forest Blocks		X	X	X	X		X
Connectivity Blocks		X	X	X	X		X
Surface Waters and Riparian Areas		X	X	X	X	X	X
Physical Landscape Blocks			X	X	X	X	X
Wildlife Road Crossings			X	X	X		X
Natural Communities	X	X	X	X	X		X
Young Forests			X		X		X
Old Forests	X						X
Aquatic Habitats			X		X	X	X
Wetlands	X					X	X
Grasslands							X
Caves		X					X

DRAFT

Thank you...

